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MOD

MASSACHUSETTS OFFICE OF DEAFNESS

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

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Statler Office Building
20 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116

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TDD: (617) 727-5236
Toll-Free: 1-800-882-1155

MOD Outreach Center West Voice: (413) 736-7296
16 Fort Street TDD: (413) 734-7298
Springfield, MA 01103

What is MOD?

- It is an independent state agency established by the Massachusetts State Legislature and opened in 1977....to help the deaf, hard of hearing and deaf-blind residents of the Commonwealth.
- It is an information and referral office for the deaf community itself, and those who provide special services to that community.
- It creates a greater awareness and understanding of the interests and needs of deaf and hearing impaired individuals...and promotes a range of services to meet those interests and needs.
- It maintains an outreach center in Springfield to serve the Western Massachusetts region.

What does MOD do?

- **INFORMATION SERVICE**
  - PUBLICATIONS – MOD publishes a series of interesting and informative periodicals:
    - Newspaper **Deaf Independent**
    - Newsletter ("Highlights")
    - Calendar of Events
    - Resource Directory
    - Summer Activities Guide
    - Audio Visual Materials Guide
  - TELECOMMUNICATIONS – MOD provides information about telecommunications equipment available: TDD/TTY, TV captioning, and signalling devices for waking and emergency alarms.
- **REFERRAL SERVICE**
  Assists hearing and hearing impaired persons in the search for resources to help deaf, hard of hearing and deaf-blind persons.
- **INTERPRETER SERVICE**
  Provides qualified sign language, oral and tactile interpreters to promote communication between deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind and hearing persons.
- **SPECIAL ADVOCACY SERVICE**
  - Works with other state and local agencies to develop and provide needed services which include:
    - Communication
    - Education
    - Employment
    - Housing
    - Legal
    - Medical
    - Mental Health
    - Rehabilitation
  - Reviews and develops public policies, regulations and programs to assist the deaf population.
- **DEAFNESS STUDIES**
  - Conducts a census to determine the make-up of the deaf, hard of hearing and deaf-blind population.
  - Maintains a Central Register of pertinent information derived from on-going surveys of the deaf community.
- **PLANNING**
  Plans and develops services and programs to promote the independence of deaf persons, and to improve the quality of their lives in a hearing world.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

MASSACHUSETTS OFFICE OF DEAFNESS

Richard E. Thompson, Ph.D., Director
Nancy T. Mason, Assistant Director

OFFICE HOURS
Monday through Friday
8:45 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.